Tribune.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1869.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE TIMES ON AMERICAN FINANCES. LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The Times, in an article on American finances, says: 'The fact that repudiation has been practiced by all the States except Massachusetts, associated with the theory which widely obtains in the Union that gold debts may be paid in paper, injures American securities. Offers of conversion will arouse distrust and defer success.

THE NEWS ON THE ALABAMA CLAIMS-MR. BOUTWELL'S PLAN.

The Daily News, commenting on Gen. Grant's statement of the Alabama question in his message, infers that the Americans want indemnity for their feelings rather than for their trade or pockets. This may be given. Diplomacy may oil this international friction and remove a sentimental grievance without compromising British interests or pride. The continental press generally appland Secretary Boutwell's plan for the resumption of specie payments. THE BISHOP OF EXETER-MR. PEABODY'S RE-

MAINS. The appointment of the Rev. Dr. Temple as Bishop of Exeter has been confirmed, notwithstanding the protests and arguments made against it. It is reported that the United States steamer Plymouth will not accompany the remains of George Peabody to America, but will return to the Mediterranean. THE FRENCH TREATY-ENGLAND'S REFUSAL TO

MODIFY. LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869. The English Ministry have refused to accept the modifications of the treaty of commerce between England and France, proposed by the latter.

FRANCE. SPEECH OF MINISTER FORCADE-THE GOVERN-

MENT SUSTAINED. In the Corps Legislatif to-day, M. Forcade de la Roquette, Minister of the Interior, made a speech in favor of the verification of the election of M. Dreolle, a Government candidate for the Corps. He declared that the Government defended the country against evil doctrines, and the country indersed it. In the towns only disorders pre-He was in favor of putting down the evil-doers who had disgraced Paris and other towns during the late election. He concluded by assuring the Deputies that the Government wished to establish liberty, but with prudence and firmness. The speech of the Ministers was warmly applauded. The right of M. Dreolle to a seat was sustained by a vote of 171 affirmatives to 77 negatives.

VALUE OF AN AMERICAN PROMISE. Panis, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The Siccle of this city, in its issue to-day, prints a large portion of the report of the Secretary of the American Treasury, received by Cable, and in its comments thereon says: "An American promise is equivalent to its fulfillment." Gen. N. P. Banks has arrived in this city.

BREST, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869.

The steamship Lafayette of the General Transatlantic Company's line arrived here at 11 o'clock this forenoon.

THE ŒCUMENICAL COUNCIL.

ITS MAGNIFICENT OPENING-PROCESSION OF THE 700 BISHOPS.

ROME, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869. The Œcumenical Council was opened to-day by Pope Pius IX. The weather was unfavorable, rain falling at intervals throughout the day; but enormous crowds filled the Vatican and lined the streets through which the members of the Council passed. The Pope followed by 700 bishops proceeded to the Hall of the Council amid the ringing of bells and the thundering of cannon from the forts of St. Angelo and Mount Aventine. The Holy Father was in fine health. The galleries of the Hall of Council were occupied by the sovereigns and princes now in Rome, by the members of the Diplomatic corps, and other notables. The ceremonies excelled in grandeur and magnificence any that have taken place in Rome within the present century

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1862. No Power has a special representative at the Œcu-

menical Council.

SPAIN.

THE REPUBLICAN PRISONERS. Madrid, Wednesday, 8, 1869.

The Republicans have appointed a committee to investigate the cases of those Republicans who are to be tried for their participation in the recent in-

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA. THE PRINCE OF MONTENEGRO'S PROTEST-PROS-PECTS OF A QUARREL.

Paris, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869. The Prince of Montenegro has protested against the intention of Austria to occupy his territory with troops, and the Prussian Government sustains Mon-

THE SUEZ CANAL.

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869. Shallow iron steamships are being built on the Type for the navigation of the Sucz Canal. Mr. Ashbury, who sailed through the canal in his yacht Cambria, writes that after taking careful soundings, he is of the opinion that no vessel drawing over 19 feet of water can pass through the canal.

ITALY.

FLORENCE, Wedensday, Dec. 8, 1869. The Congress of Deists has assembled in Naples.

CUBA.

ATTEMPT TO BURN A TOWN-MARCH ON PUERTO PRINCIPE.

HAVANA, Dec. 8 .- An attempt was lately made to barn the town of Juin, but it was frustrated. Many persons suspected of complicity in the plot have been arrested. The troops from Espiritu Sancto are marching toward Puerto Principe. It is supposed the intention of the troops is to destroy a rebel encampment planted on that road. The Gertrude is reported ashore on Roman Key. Gen. Lesca has arrived in Havana sick.

THE ENGAGEMENTS AT SAN JOSE.

NUEVITAS, Nov. 24.- A Spanish officer has admitted the fact that the Catalous suffered a great rout at San Josa. At that point the Spaniards had a detachment 360 strong. On the 20th ult. Bernabé de Varona with eight or ten men approached, when the Spaniards started out, 20 of them, in hot pursuit. Varona continued retiring until he had come to where the Cubans were posted, when his pursuers were all surrounded and taken prisoners. Not a man was lost by the Creoles. Varona, instead of ordering the prisoners to be shot, directed them to be sent to jail. After this feat of arms, he called his 400 men together and attacked San José. The Catalans were surprised, and at once threw out a white flag, at eight of which the insurgents ceased firing. Varona, supposing the Catalans intended to surrender, went forward to meet them, accompanied by four or five soldiers. Confiding in the flag of truce, and forgetting that the brave Augusto Arango lost his life by trusting in the word of honor of the Spaniards, Varous was startled when the Spanish commander gave orders to fire, and two of his party fell dead. The Cubans, justly incensed, immediatly recommenced the combat. But time having been lost, and the Spaniards reënforced, Varona concluded to retire, carrying off his dead and wounded. The colonel commanding the Spanish forces was killed. The town is full of families from Puerto-Principe, and the hospitals crowded with sick. It has rained a month without cessation.

THE GUNBOAT QUESTION TO BE SETTLED-TAC-TICS OF THE SPANISH MINISTER-THE RE-PORTED PERUVIAN SURRENDER-EXPECTED RELEASE OF THE GUNBOATS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 .- The Spanish gunboat ones-

tion is in course of settlement by diplomacy. It is known that they have been detained by Government on complaint of the Peruvian Minister, his representation being that they were designed to relieve other Spanish vessels which were to be employed in hostility against Peru, Hence the proceedings instituted to determine whether or not our neutrality laws were to be thus violated. But it is ascertained from an unofficial, but trustworthy, source that the Spanish Minister to-day presented a paper to the Secretary of State, denying the premises of the Peruvian Minister, and giving the pledge that the gun-

United States are at peace. This communication was somewhat similar to that beretofore presented by the Peruvian Minister to remove the objections of Spain, the effect of which was the release of the two monitors purchased in the United States for the Peruvian Government. The Peruvian Minister on receiving a copy of the paper expressed himself satisfied with the explanation and assurance of the Spanish Minister. Therefore the cause of the detention of the Spanish gunboats is

removed. District-Attorney Pierrepont has already, or soon will be made acquainted with these diplomatic proceedings, and it is anticipated that his action in the premises will forthwith lead to a judicial order for a release of the gunboats, when they will be trans-

ferred by the contractor to the authorities of Spain. The Spanish Minister takes a view similar to that of the Peruvian Minister to Mr. Seward nearly two years since, namely, that the war between Spain and Peru and other South American Republics long ago ceased, with no intention to renew the hostilities.

This is the present condition of affairs, although not formally announced in the communications between these Governments; but when the representatives of Spain, Peru, Chili, Bolivia, and Ecuador assemble in Washington next January, in joint conference, it is confidently expected they will give emphasis to the fact that peace has been restored among them, with a desire to cultivate the most friendly relations.

DEVOTION OF THE CUBAN LADIES.

The Cuban ladies residing at New-York have, of their own means and by private contributions, purchased arms and munitions of war to the value of \$18,000, which are to be presented to the Government of Cespedes.

THE MONSTER PETITION.

The names affixed to the petition for the recognition of the belligerent rights of the Cubans, by the United States Congress, and already forwarded to Washington from this city, are in number 30,000.

THE SPANISH GUNBOATS.

The matter of the motion for the discharge of the Spanish gunboats came on for argument in the United States District Court, before Judge Blatchford, said the matter came up at this time agreeable to the motion made by District-Attorney Pierrepont on Saturday. It was desirable that the argument should proceed and the matter be determined at as early a date a possible, as great injury would result to Mr. Delamater by any unnecessary delay. He (Mr. Stoughton) had been informed by Assistant District-Attorney Pierrepont had not come to his office, and it was thought that he had not returned from Washington. Under the circumstances counsel would take the decision of the Court.

Assistant District-Attorney Phelps said he could only yesterday. Mr. Stoughton, counsel for Mr. Delamater,

decision of the Court.

Assistant District-Attorney Phelps said he could only say that he fully expected to have seen District-Attorney Prerrepont on the previous evening, and, not having seen him there, he felt certain that he would arrive in the morning, but he had not come, and, as no telegram had been received from him, he thought that he must have been unexpectedly detained. He thought that an opportunity should be given for communication with Mr. Pierrepont before proceeding with the argument, as Mr. Pierrepont was the only one connected with the affair who had a knowledge of the details of the case.

Mr. Stoughton said he had no desire to push the matter under the circumstances, but he desired as early a day as possible, and would not like it to go over more than one day, as a further postponement would greatly interfere with counsel's arrangements.

oth counsel's arrangements.

The Court then set the motion down for hearing at 10

PROBABLE RELEASE OF THE GUNBOATS-THE GOVERNMENT UNLIKELY TO LIBEL THEM AGAIN ON CUBAN GROUNDS. District-Attorney Pierrepont left this city for.

Washington at noon on Monday last, for the special pur pose of consulting the National and other authorities there with reference to his action in the highly important international matter of the thirty libeled Spanish gunboats, concerning which so much has been done, and said, and speculated during the last few weeks. On Tuesday Judge Pierrepont attended a Cabinet meeting, at which the question was fully discussed, and last evening he re. turned to New-York. He was visited immediately by a TRIBUNE reporter, to whom he comthe sum and substance of his instructions and intentions, as follows: He will oppose the motion of Mr. Delamater's counsel for the release of the libeled vessels, as being premature and improper to be made in so important a cause before the return of the monition, which cannot be regularly returned before the 14th inst. On this technical ground Judge Pierrepont expects another adjournment. He will then move for the holding of a Special Admiralty Term, by Judge Blatchford, between December 15 and 20, for the purpose of test ing the merits of the gunboat case. But unless the Peruvian Minister, on whom the onus of evidence develves, shall produce more testimony concerning and against the libeled cononeras than that Embassador was nelined or able to furnish the District-Attorney at Washington, the gumboats will undoubtedly be released on the final hearing, without opposition from the prosecuting United States officers. What then I will the Government grant the new libel, asked for by Schor Lemus and his coadjutors, supported by the opinion of Grosvenor P. Lowy, said to be based on the explicit affidavits of Ignation Alfaro and Francis Xavier Cisneros I On this most vital point Judge Pierrepont does not hesitate to distinctly affirm that in case of the expected release from the original Peruvian libel, he does not intend to entertain the application of the Caban authorities for a new science of the vessels alleged to be designed for the commission of hostitities against the government, colony, and people of the Island of Cuba, unless the Government at Washington shall so direct, after further consideration, and he deems it highly improbable that the National authorities, as affairs now stand, will decide to have the Spanish gunboats relibeled. And Judge Pierrepont sees no chance in the case for the Cubans and their sympathizers, except through the action of Congress, by which the ultimate course of the Administration will be finally determined. Washington, the gunboats will undoubtedly be released on

GREAT PROGRESS OF THE REVOLUTION-PRESI-DENT DOMINGUE'S ADDRESS-PAPER MONEY.

AUX CAYES, Nov. 15 .- The triumph of the revolution is almost complete in the South, all the principal towns in this part of the country having, within the last eight or ten days, given in their adhesion to the Government of President Domingue. The Picquets are disbanding rapidly, most of them submitting themselves to the revolutionary authorities, and the others seeking refuge in the forests. Domingue has just issued an address to the chiefs of the army encamped at Ogé, near dress to the chiefs of the Jacmel; Gen. Chevaller being among them, urging that Jacmel; Gen. Chevaller being among Port-au-Prince, and Jacmel; Gen. Chevaller being among them, urging that they lose no time in advancing upon Port-au-Prince, and stating that a general combined movement between the forces under his command and President Saget's army, already on its way from the North, will be immediately made, with the view of investing Port-au-Prince, and obtaining an entrance into the city either by force or other means.

The turn things have recently taken in favor of the recointion has resulted already in a revival of husings.

The turn things have recently taken in favor of the revolution has resulted aiready in a revival of business at this place. Several of the merchants wno left Aux Cayes in the early part of this year, when business seemed to be entirely ruined, are preparing to return and resume trade, now that there is a prospect of continued peace. The country people are bringing in coffee and cotton freely, and the Cayenne will this trip take a full cargo, consisting principally of these articles, to New-York. President Dominique has issued a decree ordering the withdrawal of all colued money from circulation, and authorizing the public Treasurer to give paper money in exchange for specie at the rate of 160 Haytien dollars for \$1 gold.

TAXING UNITED STATES BONDS IN KENTUCKY. LOUISVILLE, Dec. 8 .- Judge Hope of the Jefferson County Court rendered an important decision

to-day in the case of The Commonwealth of Kentucky to-day in the case of The Commonwealth of Kentucky agt. The Louisville City National Bank, on the application of the attorneys for the defense to dismiss the rule issued. Suit was instituted to recover the tax levied by the State on the income arising from United States bonds held by the Bank, and the decision, which will apply to all banks holding such bonds declares the act of the Legislature constitutional and the act of Congress forbidding the tax unconstitutional. An appeal will be made.

THE SHIP ORION AT SAN DIEGO.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 8 .- A dispatch from Los Angelos says the ship Orion, from New-York for San Francisco, before reported lost, went ashere on Yulgo Shoal, near Diego, on the night of December 6. She was rescued by the steamer Oriflamme, and towed into the harbor of San Diego, leaking badly. She will probably discharge her cargo. The crew are down with the WASHINGTON.

THE NOMINATIONS FOR CIRCUIT JUDGES-PROS-PECTS OF THE EARLY ADMISSION OF VIR-GINIA—THE NINTH CENSUS—INDIAN TREA-TIES TO BE ANNULLED—FOREIGN CROP RE-PORTS-THE MONITOR DICTATOR HEARD

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE I

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 8, 1869. Nominations for 8 of the 9 new U.S. Circuit Judgeships were sent to the Senate to-day. The selections are considered very good. Geo. F. Shepley for the First Dis-trict, and Lewis B. Woodruff for the Second, were strongly boats are not to be the means of carrying on a war with Peru or any other nation with which the recommended by the best men of their districts. William McKennan, for the Third District, is a relative of Mrs. Grant, and he received a strong indorsement from Western Pennsylvania, the eastern portion of the State being divided on ex-Attorney-Gen. B. H. Brewster and Judge Russell Thayer. The appointment of Geo. A. Pearle, for the Fourth, and Geo. H. Yeaman for the Sixth District, was a surprise and disappointment to the numerous applicants. Pearle is from Cumberland, Maryland, and was elected Chief Justice of the State Circuit, comprising the Counties of Allegheny, Frederick, and Washington, in 1867, but when the Democrats got possession of the State he was legislated out of office. Questions of locality in some instances de termined the selection, and notably so in the case of the Sixth Circuit. The President several times said, while the subject was under consideration, that he should, without hesitation, give this appointment to Judge R. M. Corwine of Ohio, were he from any other State, but that there was such a pressure against giving this Judgeship to Ohio that he should be obliged to look elsewhere. Judge Corwine, though an unwilling candidate, had the unsolicited support of almost the entire Cincinnati bar. Geo. H. Yeaman of Kentucky, who was finally appointed for this Circuit, was not heard of in this connection until very lately, and is said to owe his appointment to the influence of William H. Wadsworth of that State. Justice Swayne of the Supreme Court advocated the appointment of Judge Ballard, also of Kentucky, and an effort will be made to defeat the confirmation of Yeaman. Wm. B. Woods, nominated for the Fifth Circuit, is now a resident of Mobile, Ala., but hails from Ohio. He served through the war in Gen. Sherman's army, coming out as a full Brigadier-General. After the war he settled in Alabama, and engaged in the practice of his profession, and when that State was reconstructed was elected State Chancellor on the Republican ticket. He is a brother-in-law to Senator Warner of Alabama, and was backed up by most excellent recommendations. This Circuit, it was thought at one time, would be given to Thos. J. Durant of New-Orleans. Thomas Drummond, appointed to the Seventh Circuit, hails from Galena, Ill., and is now a District Judge in that State. He is a warm personal friend of Gen. Grant. Lorenzo Sawyer, in the Ninth Circuit, is at present a District Judge in California. The contest for the Eighth Circuit is so fiercely contested that the President is looking for a new man. The fight is between ex-Congressman Ben Loan of Missouri and Charles Dillon, a brother-in-law of ex-Congressman Price of Iowa. The defeat of Benedict and Hale in the New-York Districts causes much chagrin among their friends.

The Committee of the Virginia Legislature, composed of Speaker Turner of the House, Owen of the Senate, and Messrs. Mahood, Burkholder, Wood, McCall, Ashby, Walker and Crenshaw of the House, paid a formal visit to the President to-day. Mr. Turner, on behalf of the Committee, addressed the President, stating that the Committee represented over two-thirds of the Legislature, and heartily tendered the Executive their thanks for the decided course taken in regard to the early admission of their State, and assured him that the Constitu tion, as adopted, would be carried out in good faith. Gen. Grant replied that he did not doubt the speedy admission of the State. Mr. Turner assured the President that the Committee had come to Washington to pay their respects to the Executive, and to have an interview with the Reconstruction Committee, and not to ask appointments for Virginia. The President informed the Committee that he had just nominated the Hon. George A. Pearse of Maryland to be United States Circuit Judge of the Fourth Circuit, which inel des Virginia. The Committee then withdrew. Col. Thomas S. Flourney was present during the interview as a spectator.

At 5 o'clock this afternoon the same Committee had a meeting with Gen. Butler, Chairman of the Committee on Reconstruction. The meeting took place at his residence. Speaker Turner informed Gen. Butler that the him as Chairman of the Reconstruction Committee, Gen.

"Gentlemen, I understand the object of your visit, and am glad to receive you. It has been given out that I in-tended to oppose the admission of Virginia. This is in-correct. I am only desirous to be cautious. Congress admitted Georgia, and she has broken faith. She adopted a Constitution, and gave all her citizens free and equal rights, but as soon as she was admitted into the sister-hood of the States, she not only abrogated many of the republican principles of her Constitution, but denied the right of the colored members to hold seats in right of the colored members to hold seats in the Legislature. Georgia has gained admission by fraud, and as all frauds can and must be summarily dealt with, Congress will compel Georgia to keep her plighted faith. She will be dealt with on account of her fraud. Tennessee has also broken every bond and pledge, and now, in that State the colored man is little better off than he was ten years since. Every principle of the Republican party is there set at nought, and the laws of the land set at defiance. I desire to guard against a repetition of such frauds. Georgia and Tennessee has tricked the Republican party and the true Union people of the land, and I am determined to assist in preventing any more of such trickery from any other State. "3 other State."4

A delegate then read a memorial which the delegation had prepared for presentation to the Reconstruction Committee. The memorial, in brief, states that on the oth of July last, pursuant to the laws of Congress and the proclamation of the President, the citizens of Virginia adopted a Constitution thoroughly republican in form, and its provisions providing, among other things, for a thorough system of free schools, etc.; that this Constitution was adopted almost unanimously; that the two clauses defeated were voted upon separately by permission of Congress and an order of the President, and that Virginia had complied with the Reconstruction laws; the President has already declared the Constitution acceptable to him; that the Legislature elected under the provisions of the Constitution had organized and elected officers, had ratified the XIVth and XIVth Amendments, and elected two gentlemen as U. S. Senators against whom no objection could be urged -men whom the Legislature deemed acceptable to all; that throughout the State representatives to Congress had been chosen against whom no objections, "so far as constitutional right was concerned," had been made and that the people had elected a Governor whose loy alty, truth, and honor none doubted, and who had been accepted by the President as a loyal and proper officer, and who at once gave over the State authority to him as soon as he was inaugurated. The memorial closed saying: " And having thus complied with all the terms required by either branch of the General Government, we respectfully ask Virginia to be admitted as a State of the Federal Union, and that the Senators we have chosen and the representatives whom the people have elected, be at once admitted to their respective seats in this present Congress." Gen. Butler, at the conclusion of the reading of the memorial, resumed his remarks, and said: GENTLEMEN: I am delighted with your memorial as far as it goes, but if you will allow me to make a suggestion, I would say that an addition of three or four lines will settle the matter, and Virginia will be admitted within an hour after the Committee report a bill for that purpose Several of the gentlemen said together, "What are the

lines! What is it you desire!" Gen. Butler answered: Ithink it better for you to pledge yourselves as the Legislature, and for your constituents, that you will see that the provisions of the Constitution, as it now stands, will be faithfully carried out, and no trickery done, as in the case of Georgia and Tennessee. If you do this, I assure you that Virginia will be a State in the Union before the expiration of the present week. I will say further, that such pledge, made by you as a legislative body, and as gentlemen, will perfectly satisfy me, as it doubtless will all the members of the Committee. I am always ready to accept the pledge of a Virginian gentleman.

Speaker Turner then assured Gen. Butler that the pledge would be added. He said the Committe would hold a meeting as soon as they retired to their hotel, and would make the necessary addition. Gen. Butler then

Well, gentlemen, that settles the matter, and the Re well, gentlemen, that settles the matter, and the Re-construction Committee will be prepared to receive you and your memorial at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning. I like the Constitution adopted by your people. It is really, in many of its features, much better than the Constitution of Massachusetts, and vastly better than many of the constitutions of other States. I have no hesitation in saying that I do not believe the Senators and Representatives from your State will be no hesitation in saying that I do not believe the Senators and Representatives from your State will be a day behind the admission of your State. I am very desfrons to have the vote in the House unanimous, and I hope there will not be any party vote about it. I really would like to see old Virginia come in again with the unanimous cousent of Congress. I have no passion or party feeling about it,

and I feel sure that I speak the sentiments of the other members of the Reconstruction Committee. After half an hour spent in general conversation, the Committee withdrew, and at once repaired to Willard's Hotel, where they held a formal meeting, and again drew up a memorial, the same as before, with an addition as

And furthermore, this Committee pledge themselves singly and jointly, and as the Committee representing the State Legislature, that the provisions of the State Constitution, as now adopted, shall be carried out to the very letter and spirit of its intent and law.

This was subsequently shown to Gen. Butler to-night, and after reading the added lines he said: "Well, that settles Virginia's admission, and I am as much delighted as any one else." Gen. Grant was informed by Gov. Walker of the result of the interview, and the action of the Committee, and congratulated Gov. Walker on the now sure prospect of the speedy admission of the State. The Committee meet the Reconstruction Committee at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, and there is reason to believe that a bill looking to the admission of Virginia, will be reported to both Houses to-morrow.

The Census Committee, at their meeting to-day, agreed

o report an amendment to the Census bill now under consideration, fixing the number of Representatives in Congress to 300. This provision will be strongly opposed in the House, but it is believed that it will be carried, as it is indorsed by a majority of the Southern and Western members. It is thought that from all the information in the possession of the Committee, that the next census

will show the population of the country to be 40,000,000. The House Committee on Indian Affairs have ascer tained that in almost every instance where treaties are made with the Indians, not only the Government, but the Indians, are outrageously swindled by the officers making the treaties and controlling the disbursements of moneys under them. A bill in view of these facts will be reported by the Chairman, prohibiting the making of treaties in the usual manner in the future. The Commitsee believe that many of the treaties now in operation are improper, and they will endeavor to have the Secretary of the Interior and Commissioner of Indian Affairs authorized to annul as many of the existing treaties as practicable. It is proposed that Congress take the matter in hand, and provide for the maintenance of the various Indian tribes.

Mr. Sargent of California introduced to-day a bill requiring American Consuls residing in countries which roduce cereal or other crops, that come in competition with American products in markets of the world, to furnish accurate quarterly reports of the condition of such crops to the State Department, which is required to transmit them to the Department of Agriculture, to be placed in compact form, tabular or otherwise, correcting them by any trustworthy information in its possession and publish the information in its monthly circulars. The author of the bill designs to put our farmers in possession of accurate information, to enable them to intelligently dispose of their crops. Not knowing more intelligently laws of demand and supply, entails annual losses of several millions of dollars upon farmers.

A dispatch was received to-day from the Commander of the monitor Dictator, which states that after they left Tybee for Key West, they encountered a severe gale off the coast of Florida, which lasted over thirty hours. The monitor stood it better than the tugs Triana and Standish, which were the Dictator's convoys. The Triana unshipped her rudder, which fouled her propellers, and caused the Dictator to part her wire wheel rope, and she was four hours in the trough of the sea. No damage was done beyond breaking her starboard quarter boat. At 2 a. m. of the 4th inst., she parted company with the tugs, and arrived at Tybee Roads, the mouth of the Savannah River, on the evening of the 6th. While the Dictator was making 24 revolutions a minute, she had to slow down on account of slow speed of the tugs. She has coaled, and will leave the Tybee for Key West to-morrow.

In Executive Session, to-day, the nomination previousy made of George M. Robeson to be Secretary of the Navy, and William W. Belknap to be Secretary of War, were unanimously confirmed.

The seat of the Hon. Geo, M. Adams, Representative in Congress from the VIIIth Kentucky District, is to be contested by Col. Sidney M. Bares, who is now on his way here. Chas. P. Shaw of New-York City was yesterday on motion of the Hon. Noah Davis, admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Disability bill, removing the political disabilities of about 500 Southerners who participated in the Rebellion, which was left over from last session, was taken up in the Senate to-day. The bill at the last session excited unusual debate, and was the cause of considerable illfeeling. Much of the opposition to the bill was chargeable to Senator Stewart of Nevada, on account of his father-in-law, ex-Senator Foote of Tennessee. The name committee had called to have an informal meeting with of the latter was on the bill as it originally passed the after a long debate without Foote's name. When it came back to the Senate, Mr. Stewart opposed it, and it went over until the present session, to the great injury and inconvenience of many deserving men. The bill was taken up to-day, and after a running debate was passed, without amendment. It will go to the President to-merrow,

who will promptly sign it. John C. Fremont is expected here to-morrow on busi ness connected with the Memphis and El Paso Railroad. A strong pressure will be made to pass the bill giving this road the right of way. No subsidies are asked, and it is believed that the right of way will be granted. The bill has already passed the House.

AMOUNT OF COIN IN THE TREASURY-ILLICIT DISTILLING IN TENNESSEE.

IGENERAL PRESS DISPATCH 1 The Secretary of the Treasury at present has on hand about \$71,000,000 in coin, and the receipts from customs during the remainder of this month are estimated at \$10,500,000, which will make a total of \$31,600,000. The weekly sales of gold, however, will reduce this amount \$6,000,000 or \$8,000,000. On the 51st inst. about \$32,000,000 will be required to pay the semi-annual installment of the interest on the bonds of 1881 and the five-twenties falling due upon the 1st prox., which will leave a bal-ance on hand of about \$44,000,000 or \$46,000,000 at that

Collector James A. Galbraith of the First Tennessee Collector James A. Galbraith of the First Tennessee District reports to Commissioner Delano the destruction of several fillicit stills in Jefferson County. This county is said to be infested with outlaws engaged in violating the Government Revenue laws. The Revenue authori-ties did not succeed in making any arrests, as their ap-proach was made known by parties in collusion with the outlaws.

No nomination has yet been made for the vacancy on No nomination has yet been made for the vacancy on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States. The choice undoubtedly lies between Attorney-General Hoar and Judge Erskine of Georgia. Rear-Admiral Craven has been ordered to assume the duties of Port-Admiral at San Francisco, Cal., on the 1st.

NOMINATIONS FOR CIRCUIT JUDGES, ETC. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.-The following cominations were sent in to-day:

FOR CIRCUIT JUDGES.

George F. Shepley, Maine, for the First Circuit.
Lewis B. Woodruff, New-York, for the Second Circuit.
William McKennan, Penn., for the Third Circuit.
George A. Pearle, Maryland, for the Fourth Circuit.
William B. Woods, Alabama, for the Fifth Circuit. William B. Woods, Alabama, for the Fifth Circuit.
George H. Yeaman, Kentucky, for the Sixth Circuit.
Thomas Drummond, New-York, for the Seventh Circuit.
Lorenzo Sawyer for the Ninth Circuit.
FOR ASSISTANT TREASURER.
Charles J. Folger, at New-York.
FOR APPRAISER.

Charles J. Folger, at New-York.
FOR APPRAISER.
George W. Palmer, at New-York.
FOR POSITIONS IN MANY DEPARTMENT.
Augustus L. Chase, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance.
Daniel Ammen, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Edward T. Dunn, Chief of the Bureau of Provisions

Surgery. The other nominations were of appointments made during the recess, and included 37 to the Treasury, 64 to the Navy, 120 to the War Departments, eight to the Attorney-General's Office, and one, John M. Marshall, to be First Assistant Postmaster-General.

and Clothing. W. M. Wood, Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and

NATIONAL COLORED LABOR CONVENTION. WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 .- The National Colored Labor Convention reassembled at 10 this morning, and remained in session until 4 p. m. Mr. Harris of North Caro lina, occupied the chair. After some unimportant busi ness, reports were read from the several committees.

ness, reports were read from the several committees.

Mr. W. J. Wilson, from the Committee on Savings Banks, presented an interesting resume of the progress of the Freedmens Savings Bank, stating among other things that its deposits had amounted to over \$10,000,000. The report recommended the encouragement of such institutions, and declared their growth was the test of prosperity among working people.

Mr. G. S. Woodson reported a resolution asking the Governors of States that have not yet acted on the Governors of States that have not yet acted on the Xvth Amendment, to convene their respective Legislatures for that purpose. After some modification it was adopted.

Senator Wright of South Carolina, in a report, recommended the establishment of a central bureau for the settlement of all questions growing out of the infringement of colored persons' rights to travel, &c., and that a fund be raised to prosecute cases of ill-treatment before the Courts. Mr. Wright' was himself forcibly ejected from a first-class car, on his way here, after he had paid from a first-class car, on his way here, after he had paid toll fare.

from a first-class car, on the way fact, full fare. Resolutions were passed tendering the thanks of the

Convention to President Grant, and appointing a delegation to wait on him on behalf of the Convention.

Prof. Langston read the address, reported by the Committee appointed for that purpose. The document is able and eloquent, and is possessed of fine literary merit. It is entitled "The Colored People in their Relations to American Industry," and asserts the skill and capacity of colored labor, citing examples of both, demanding fair remuneration, full protection, and equal right of apprenticeship and employment with those enjoyed by white mechanics and laborers. It declares that rightly understood, capital being first created by labor, there should not be any antagonism between them, and affirms that it is not the wish or feeling of the colored laborers to provoke or have part in any such antagonism. They only demand their right, and they will accept nothing less. The language in regard to the national integrity was very strong. Colored labor, it declared, would never join in any movement that looked to repudation, any more than it would join a political party having that on its banner. The address recommended very strongly the formation of a Central Bureau of Industry, the object of which should be to organize the colored labor of the country, and especially of the South.

In the evening, the principal speech was made by Judge Kelly. He urged them to go into all possible industrial enterprises that opened. In closing, he warned them carnestly against a political alliance with those who for 90 years past had held the colored race in so abject a position, that in their presence colored men had not dared to defend the honor of their mothers, wives, and sisters.

Judge Kelly was followed by Mr. W. White, Secretary

sisters.

Judge Keily was followed by Mr. W. White, Secretary of the Georgia Labor Union, and at a later hour by Mrs. Cary Shadd (colored) of Detroit. The attendance was very large, but there is evidently too much talk and not enough work. Senator Sumner will address the Convention to-morrow evening.

THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE.

ITS RECEPTION BY THE PRESS. SENSIBLE AND PLAIN.

SENSIBLE AND PLAIN.
From The Boston Advertiser.

"Sensible" is the epithet by which ninetenths of its readers will sum up their estimate of the President's Message. It is not brilliant; it has none of the picturesque felicity of expression which characterized all of Mr. Lincoin's public documents; it is equally free from the aggressive personality and violent egotism which permeated everything coming from the last occupant of the Presidential chair; it deals with plain facts in a plain way; and as there is nothing in it which the humblest citizen can fail to understand, so there is nothing that the most ingenious enemy can torture into a meaning not intended. The President shows plainly enough that he has not "abilicated," but that he holds the reins of his great office with a firm hand, and has employed the comparative leisure of the recess in a careful and profitable study of the most pressing needs of the nation.

PRACTICAL AND STRAIGHTFORWARD.

pressing needs of the nation.

PRACTICAL AND STRAIGHTFORWARD.

From the Bosten Pest, Democratic.

The first annual message of President Grant is as devoid of rhetorical embellishment as is the address of its author. It goes straight to business, and offers its suggestions and recommendations in a strictly business way. * * The very practical and straightforward character of the document will strike all readers forcibly. It contains no evidence of independent thinking or original views, but generally adopts those of Secretaries and Senators. Yet it can be readily comprehended, and, if closed on a rather low key, will be taken as the address of a plain man to Congress, made in the plainest manner. Its brevity is a merit, which a merely business communication should always aim to possess. CLEAR AND COMPREHENSIVE-NO VERBIAGE.

The President' first annual message has at least The President first annual message has at least the merit of brevity, and it is to be hoped may become a model in that respect for the communications of his successors. We are glad to be reheved in this message from surplusage and tedious verbiage, and the example thus set might be safely followed, not only by Gen. Grant's successors, but by some of the heads of departments and bureaus in their accompanying annual reports. Gen. Grant has set a practical example of retrenchment and reform in this matter which is worthy of general official imitation. * * The message is in general a clear and comprehensive document.

PLATITUDES—INDECISION.

PLATITUDES-INDECISION.

From The Philadelphia Age (Democr. The message is not as short as was promised, nor is it as explicit as might be desired. It falls too much into those generalities and platitudes by which the real questions are avoided. Of the Southern States still excluded from the Union but one, Virginia, is the subject of unequivocal recommendation. Missispipi and Texas, and even Georgia, are handed over to the tender mercies of Radical legislation. * The boasts of extraordinary prosperity in which the message abounds seem thrown in without any distinct reference to the present state of the country. An undecided tone also pervades what is said of foreign affairs. No decided course is recommended as to Cuba. * As a public document the Message is feeble, and does not advance the solution of any one question of importance. It will disappoint most readers, and we, at least, are under no compuision to praise it.

GRANT HAS BEEN STUDYING POLITICS. The message is not as short as was promised,

GRANT HAS BEEN STUDYING POLITICS.
From The Buffalo Courier (Demonstratic). Contrary to general expectation, the message Contrary to general expectation, the message of President Grant is a long and comprehensive, if not elaborate document. Its author has evidently worked hard during the nine months he has held office to requaint himself with State affairs, for, while his inaugural address was virtually a confession of ignorance on the majority of public topics, the present message testifies that he has studied, if not mastered, nearly all of these. * * * The message brings Grant before us in several new roles, and is well worth attentive perusal.

PRACTICAL GOOD SENSE.

Gen. Grant's message is brief and direct. The nome affairs of the nation are treated with practical good sense. * • The topics referred to are treated with thorough intelligence, and the recommendations evince a degree of statesmanship which will command the heartiest approbation of the country.

A DISSATISFIED REPUBLICAN.

President Grant has produced a longer mes-sage and one more ambitious in its scope and style than was expected. The expressions of his pride in "this great nation," and gratitude that it is not as other nations was expected. The expressions of his pride in "this great nation," and grantude that it is not as other nations are, might have been modified with advantage, on the score of good taste. There is a personal consciousness, too, cropping out in the message, hardly in harmony with the character of a simple and modest soldier. It was not important to say that certain countless blessings and all that sort of thing, with which Fourth of July literature has familiarized us, are "submitted to your care and mine." The message ends in the same strain. We fear there is in the Presidential, as in most unofficial minds, a condition that approaches confusion concerning the financial questions. The President don't want immediate resumption of specie payments, for that would be hard on the debtor class, but he is against uncertainty in values. We fear the President's education has been a little neglected right here. He earnestly recommends that which is utterly impracticable. Congress has the same power to put an immediate stop to the fluctuations in the price of corn or cotton, or to the rise and fall of the waters of the Atlantic. He means, however, in general, that we should move in the direction of specie payments, and in that he is sound. The observations of the President on Cuban affairs are clear and just. The language of the message relating to the negotiations with Great England was likely to apologize to us for the sentiments her people entertained as to the war of the Rebellion in this country. Concerting the French Cable, the President has been unduly influenced by the New York Associated Press.

"Upon the tariff question the Chief Magistrate will be found pleasing to the interests that suppose themselves to be protected. As long as nine-tentlis of the people think it a fine thing to be taxed for the special advantage of the other tenth, and call it protection of American industry, we suppose it is all right.

THE SPECIE PAYMENT PLAN SUPPORTED.

THE SPECIE PAYMENT PLAN SUPPORTED.

Its financial and currency propositions are the new funding of the bends at 44 per cent interest, and the fixing of the coin value of the greenback currency, not at its face, but at a fair current price. It is thus "To authorize the Treasury to paper at a fixed price when presented." This would at once stop all speculation in gold, and a stability would at paper at a fixed price when presented." This would at once stop all specialston in gold, and a stability would at once be given to the currency. This would restore specie payment without any disturbance of values. We ought to believe this the best plan yet presented, for we have earnestly advocated it. To fix the value of the currency where it is would do no injustice to anybody, and on that value specie payment could be resumed at once without disturbance. We hope that the influence of the President will concentrate legislative opinion on a plan founded on this principle of justly fixing the value of the currencySEVERAL EXCEPTIONS TAKEN.

SEVERAL EXCEPTIONS TAKEN. In the main, we agree with the recommen In the main, we agree with the recommendations of President Grant. There are, however, some points, on which we differ widly and radically. For example, we cannot inderse his policy of contraction as a means of bringing about a speedy resumption of specie payments. * The vicusitudes of such a change could not fail to work far greater injuries than could proceed from a continuance of existing surroundings. * President Grant also recommends a reactment and continuance of the income tax. We must demur to this, also. No tax is so unpopular, inequitable, easily evaded, unsatisfactory in its returns, inquisitorial in its scrutiny, verations in its collection, and expensive in proportion to the cost of the levy. Regarding one other point, we must differ with the message. The national power to reduce taxation, as exemplified in the fact that we are now diminishing the public debt at a rate greater than \$100,000,000 per annum, shows clearly that we can immediately dispense with a number of internal taxes. We see no reason why the abolition of these should be put off, as recommended, until the session of Congress one year hence. With these, and a few minor exceptions, we fully agree with President Grant's recommendations.

A MODEL, OF SIMPLICITY AND VIGOR.

fully agree with President Grant's recommendations.

A MODEL OF SIMPLICITY AND VIGOR.

From The One State Journal.

The message is a model of condensation, of simplicity and vigor in style, of broad and statesmanlike views, stated with the precision and directness of an elementary treatise. It has many sentences that will serve as texts for leading articles. * * * The message cannot be condensed, and the best resume of its contents is the reading of the whole.

RECEPTION OF THE MESSAGE IN VIRGINIA.

From The Righmont Dispatch.

To the people of Virginia, the President's direct and unqualified recommendation that the Virginia Representatives to Congress be immediately admitted to their seats, will be highly gratifying. their scats, will be highly gratifying. " We confess our surprise at its recommendations concerning Georgia. We cannot regard this feature without concern, notwithstanding that Virginia passes muster, and has every prospect of pelng regularly enrolled as an equal among the States of the Union.

PARAGUAY.

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

BRAZIL AND THE REPUBLICS-THE PLANS OF DOM PEDRO-DISSATISFACTION OF HIS AL-LIES-A STRANGE STORY-HOW THE PROVIS-IONAL GOVERNMENT IS ADMINISTERED AT ASUNCION-BRAZILIAN CRUELTIES-PRISON ERS SHOT AND LANCED. MONTEVIDEO, Oct. 14 .- The uneasiness of the Ar-

gentines and Uruguayans respecting the ultimate

designs of Brazil in the present war seems to increase

from day to day, and the press of both the former

countries is clamoring loudly for a rupture of the

alliance before their independence is hopelessly com-

promised. The Brazilian Ministry lately made an official announcement in the Chambers that the war with Paraguay was over; yet the War Office has just called for 60,000 men, and we in the neighboring Republics are inquiring what they are wanted for. There has always been a strong party opposed to the war, but all classes now seem to have taken the alarm. El Mercantil del Plata of this city says: "Even the journals which sustain the government of Sr. Sarmiento are at last obliged to confess that the alliance is covering with lasting infamy in the eyes of history the powers which have combined and participated in the great crime of exterminating with fire and sword a brother people.... That the authority, born in crime, which calls itself the Oriental Government, and which is merely the expression of the will of Brazil, should accept and continue the policy of the alliance, is easy enough to understand; but that the Government of the Argentine Republic, which purports to emanate from the will of the people, should voluntarily accept the legacy of Mitre, and declare itself the successor of that political traitor, is a thing which can only be explained by the corruption of the dominant party in the republic." El Rio de la Plata, after denouncing in unmeasured terms the interference of the allies with the affairs of Paraguay, and observing that the Paraguayan people received them, "not as liberators, but as soldiers of conquest," warns it readers that "a strict compliance with international law is the only guaranty which weak nations possess against the aggressions of the strong. What resistance," it goes on to ask, "can we oppose to injustice to-morrow, if we have violated the principles of right which might have been appealed to in our favor! Grave dangers menace us. Let us try to avoid them in time." Stop the war, and break the alliance; this is the almost universal cry.

In the midst of this excitement a queer story comes to light showing how Brazil has made herself the supreme ruler of Paraguay while pretending to intrust the administration to a Provisional Government at Asuncion. It seems that when Lopez evacuated that place, his brother Venancio took with him to the mountains a handsome prostitute with whom he had been living in concubinage; and she, tiring of a toilsome vagabond life, recently left him, came within the lines and presented herself once more at Asuncion. Here she claimed possession of the property of her ex-lover, including several

onses, one of which had been converted into a hosal. Of course the Provisional Government at once rejected such a preposterous claim. The woman appealed to the Brazilian Minister, Sr. Paranhos. What arguments she used I don't know, but the Minister issued a peremptory order to the Provisional Government to comply with her demand, and even went the length of sending a file of soldiers to dispossess the inhabitants of one of the houses forthwith, and put the lady in possession! This extraordinary affair has created great excitement; the newspapers are full of it; and everybody is asking. Who governs Paraguay? Have we driven Lopez to the mountains only to put Dom Pedro in his place? Brazil seems to have taken full possession of one prostrate Republic; whose turn will it be next?

The condition of Asuncion under the new rule is horrible beyond description. The Paraguay correspondent of El Mercantil declares that the whole city is nothing better than a house of prostitution. The wildest license runs riot in the streets day and night; scenes are witnessed at every step which dare not put on paper; "the Seven Plagues of Egypt have lost their proverbial significance, for the greater plagues of Paraguay have blotted them out of remembrance." All this is ascribed, of course not very logically, to the influence of Brazil. I mention the fact to show how the great slave empire is becoming feared and hated by its helpless allies. At the same time we get horrible stories of the atrocities of the Brazilians to their prisoners, and I dare say they may get a reputation after a while not less shocking than that of Lopez himself. El Mercantil quotes from El Comercio an article which I condense as follows: "By the side of the magnanimity of our soldiers of Government to comply with her demand, and even

than that of Lopez himself. El Mercantil quotes from El Comercio an article which I condense as follows: "By the side of the magnanimity of our soldiers of the Army of Paragnay, a marked contrast is presented by the conduct of the Brazilian soldiers toward the unfortunate men who, fighting in the ranks of the tyrant Lopez, were taken prisoners in the latest battles. The correspondents of the Tribuna [the official paper of Montevideo] and other testimony tell tales of horror at which humanity and civilization must cry aloud. Shoeting and lancing defenseless prisoners is the work of none out cowards. Lopez in the ers is the work of none out cowards. Lopez in the midst of his barbarous executious often respected the lives of prisoners; and in all the list of his victims there is not the name of a single chief shot after a battle. What right, what law authorized Gen. Camara to cut the throat of Col. Caballero, a Paraguayan officer, immediately after his surrender? In the name of what principle did Gen. Victorino cause the officers of the enemy who surrendered at the combat of the Yacare to be lanced? These were not the acts of the Yacare to be lanced? These were not the acte of the lawless and bloodthirsty Brazilian soldiery, but of their chieftains, the heads of the Imperial army. It is perfectly conformable with the tendencies of Brazil and her traditional persistence in demolishing every obstacle to her pacific domination, to convert the Republic of Paraguay into a cemetery, by exterminating all the men, and sparing neither the women who survive nor the wretched huts in which they find chalter from the weather. The war agains? they find shelter from the weather. The war against Lopez need no longer concern us, for that is almost at an end; but the means which our allies know so well how to use for the extension of their influence demand our most serious consideration."

THE INDIANS.

DEPREDATIONS IN WYOMING TERRITORY. CHICAGO, Dec. 8 .- A letter from Laramie,

Dec. 4, says that the Indian troubles in Wyoming are quite alarming. Bands of Sioux are roving through the Territory, robbing and murdering. The last mail party that left Fort Laramie was driven in by the Indians. Another that left several days previous had not been heard from, and it is feared they have been captured.

NATIONAL BASE-BALL CONVENTION. BOSTON, Dec. 8 .- The National Base-Ball

Association met at the rooms of the Lowell Club this morning at 11 o'clock. The following, associations were represented: New-York, 85 clubs, by 9 delegates; Pennrepresented: New York, 85 clubs, by 9 delegates; Pennsylvania. 23 clubs, by 3; Massachusetts, 17 clubs, by 2; Missouri, 12 clubs, by 2; Ohio, 2, and the District of Columbia, 5 clubs, by 1 delegate. The various reports for the year were read. The report of the Recording Secretary suggesting that he be authorized to procure new engraved certificates to issue to members was adopted. The following named officers were elected for the ensuing year:

The following named officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, A. N. Bush; Pirst Vice-President, J. H. Westervelt of New-Jersey; second Vice-President, L. P. Fuller of Missouri; Recording Secretary, C. E. Coon of District of Columbia; Corresponding Secretary, C. E. Coon of District of Columbia; Corresponding Secretary, A. The amended Constitution was taken up by sections and passed. The most noticeable alterations were one fixing the last Wednesday of November for the annual meeting of the Association, and another fixing the sum of 50 cents as the annual dues from each Club belonging to the Association. The rules and regulations with proposed amendments were taken up. The principal amendments adopted were as follows: Giving the umpire permission to call the striker, in the same manner as is the calling of balls, without giving warning; in case of an equal number of runs between two Clubs in a game, and where one refuses to continue it, giving the other Club the game with a score of nine to nothing; striking out the section which makes a distinction between anateur and professional Clubs. The penalty of expulsion against Edward Duffy of New-York.

A STEAMBOAT SUNK AT WHEELING-SEVERAL LIVES LOST.

WHEELING, WEST VA., Dec. 8 .- The Wheeling and Parkersburg packet Rebecca came in collis with Pier No. 4 of the new bridge at Parkersburg last night, and sunk immediately. Four or five lives were lost. All the passengers were saved. The lost are supposed to have been deck hands.

LATER.—Five bodies have been recovered from the

wreck; Sanford Karr, John Karr, Henthorn and Long, and one, name unknown. These are all that are positively known to be lost, though it is believed that several others are missing. The cabin passengers barely escaped with their lives, losing all their baggage. The boat was valued at \$50,000, and was insured for \$12,000.